

Message Text

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PAGE 01 STATE 167620
ORIGIN NEA-10

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 /011 R

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DRAFTED BY NEA/RA:DTMORRISON:YW

APPROVED BY NEA/RA:SEPALMER,JR

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R 190156Z JUL 77

FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY LONDON

INFO AMEMBASSY PARIS

AMEMBASSY BONN

AMEMBASSY ROME

AMEMBASSY OTTAWA

AMEMBASSY TOKYO

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FOLLOWING REPEAT MANAMA 1342 ACTION SECSTATE INFO ABU DHABI
AMMAN BAGHDAD CAIRO DAMASCUS DOHA JIDDA KUWAIT MUSCAT
SANA TRIPOLI USDOC WASHDC 25 JUN 77

QUOTE

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE MANAMA 1342

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: ETRD, PFOR, EALR, BA

SUBJECT: ARAB BOYCOTT: POSITIVE CERTIFICATION

REF: MANAMA 1219

1. ON JUNE 22, AMBASSADOR AND ECON/COMMERCIAL OFFICER
MET WITH GOB MINISTER OF FINANCE AND NATIONAL ECONOMY,
IBRAHIM ABDULKARIM, TO REVIEW A NUMBER OF ECONOMIC ISSUES.

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AMONG THEM WAS THE STATUS OF THE IMPLEMENTATION OF THE ACCEPTANCE
OF POSITIVE CERTIFICATIONS AS DESCRIBED REFTEL.

2. WE MADE POINT TO MINISTER THAT CHANGE IN CERTIFICATION
PROCEDURES FROM NEGATIVE TO POSITIVE OVER THE PAST SIX
MONTHS HAS BEEN PROCEEDING SMOOTHLY EXCEPT IN TWO CASES OF
WHICH WE WERE AWARE. HE WAS INSTANTLY INTERESTED TO KNOW

WHAT THE EXCEPTIONS WERE AND, AS PER REFTTEL, WE DESCRIBED WHAT WE UNDERSTAND TO BE THE HESITANCY OF BRITISH BANKS (CHARTERED AND BRITISH BANK OF THE MIDDLE EAST) TO ACCEPT POSITIVE CERTIFICATIONS. WE NOTED, IN PASSING, THAT ALL OTHER AL COMMERCIAL BANKS HAVE MADE THE SWITCH TO POSITIVE CERTIFICATIONS. MOST IMPORTANT IN THIS REGARD WAS THE SHIFT OF THE NATIONAL BANK OF BAHRAIN IN FEBRUARY. SECONDLY, WE NOTED THAT RECENTLY THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH HAD ISSUED TENDERS FOR IMPORTANT X-RAY EQUIPMENT AND THAT GENERAL ELECTRIC HAD FELT IT COULD NOT COMPLY WITH THE NEGATIVE REQUIREMENTS IN THE TENDER DOCUMENTS (STATE 128266). WE SUGGESTED THAT THE MINISTRY WAS PROBABLY SIMPLY USING OUTDATED FORMS. MINISTER UNDERTOOK TO INFORM MINISTER OF HEALTH PERSONALLY OF CHANGE IN REQUIREMENTS.

3. ON BOTH POINTS, THE BRITISH BANKS AND THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH, THE MINISTER STATED THAT HE WOULD LOOK INTO THE SITUATIONS AND TAKE NECESSARY ACTION. ON PAST PERFORMANCE, WE EXPECT THAT HE WILL DO SO.
CLUVERIUS.
UNQUOTE VANCE.

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Message Attributes

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Copy: SINGLE
Sent Date: 19-Jul-1977 12:00:00 am
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Disposition Approved on Date:
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